

IN HONOR OF HEATHER MEURER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Heather Courtney Meurer, a young woman who recently and suddenly passed away at the age of 32. Heather was the daughter of my good friend, and a dedicated public servant, Fred Meurer, and her loss was felt immediately.

Born in Seoul, Korea, Heather was raised in Salinas, California, and graduated from Salinas High School in 1987. Since her high school graduation, Heather had been working at St. Agnes Medical Center while pursuing her education. She had completed an accounting degree at Fresno State University, and was earning a master's degree in speech therapy at the time of her unfortunate death.

Heather's death, a young 32, is especially tragic because she had so much ahead of her, including exciting new opportunities through her upcoming speech therapy degree. She will be missed by her mother, Judi Albright Meurer and father Fred Meurer, both of Salinas, CA.; two sisters, Ashley Lafayette of Marina, CA., and Marie Barfuss of Utah; three brothers, David Meurer of Salinas, CA., and Steven and John Farnsworth of Utah; and her Korean birth mother, Monica Tedrowe. I sympathize with the Meurer family and their loss, and I can only hope that the love and support of their friends and community are helping them through this difficult time.

INTERNET APPRECIATION DAY**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to report that the Internet economy is alive and well.

In the past year, a perceived lack of public confidence has hampered an industry, which has limitless potential. Despite the negativity reported in the media, let it be known that 350 million Internet users worldwide truly enjoy this incredible medium. And that while the media has reported that almost 300 dotcoms have closed their doors since January 2000, more than 7,500 Internet-related companies have been funded by venture capital alone in the past 5 years. The Internet economy itself has created some 3 million jobs worldwide. In light of premature pessimism, industry leaders are calling on the 350 million Internet users worldwide to remember why they embraced the Internet in the first place by participating in "Internet Appreciation Day", on April 3d, with the launch of the "Back the Net" campaign.

On April 3d, Internet users are being asked to show their support by donating to an online charity, purchasing something online or investing in their favorite online business. ICONOLAST, the San Francisco based company spearheading this effort is asking Internet users to alert at least 10 friends or their customer lists by sending a "Back the Net" letter at www.iconocast.com/crusade.

The Internet has become a vital tool in our information society. It has grown exponentially

through the 1990's and into the 21st century. This growth has fueled the economic prosperity of the last decade while giving businesses, consumers and more importantly the American family access to an unprecedented amount of information. More Americans are going online to conduct such day-to-day activities as education, business transactions, personal correspondence, research and information-gathering, and job searches. Each year, being digitally connected becomes ever more critical to economic and educational advancement as well as community participation. The family friendly Internet has brought happiness to America's families by increasing and enhancing communication across the country and across generations.

For these reasons friends of the Internet declare April 3d, 2001 "Internet Appreciation Day" to once again help restore public confidence in and respect for the Internet.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION**HON. ROB PORTMAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, because I attended the Conference of the Speakers of the G-8 Parliaments with House Speaker DENNIS HASTERT in Rome, Italy, I missed the following Rollcall votes on March 22, 2001; Rollcall vote No. 56, on the Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay." On Rollcall No. 57, passage of H. Res. 93, I would have voted "yea." On Rollcall No. 58, passage of H.R. 1099, I would have voted "yea." On Rollcall No. 59, passage of H.R. 802, I would have voted "yea." On Rollcall No. 60, the Traficant amendment to H.R. 247, I would have voted "aye." On Rollcall No. 61, passage of H.R. 247, I would have voted "aye."

CLEAN SMOKESTACKS ACT OF 2001**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am again joining with Representative BOEHLERT in introducing the Clean Smokestacks Act of 2001. This important legislation will finally cleanup the nation's dirty, antiquated powerplants.

When I originally introduced the Clean Smokestacks Act with Representative BOEHLERT in the last Congress, we had a modest beginning. I think we had a total of 15 cosponsors and little attention. But by the end of last year, the bill's supporters had grown to over 120 House Members.

This year, the Senate is joining in our effort. Senators JEFFORDS and LIEBERMAN have introduced a companion bill in the Senate, entitled the Clean Power Act. I am hopeful that together we can get the job done.

Electricity generation is our nation's single largest source of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Nationally, power plants are responsible for about 40 percent of carbon dioxide emissions, 64 percent of sulfur dioxide emissions, 26 percent of nitrogen oxides emissions and 33 percent of mercury emissions.

These four pollutants are the major cause of some of the most serious environmental problems the nation faces, including acid rain, smog, respiratory illness, mercury contamination, and global warming. If we are going to improve air quality and reduce global warming, we must curb the emissions from these powerplants.

President Bush was right when he promised during the campaign to support legislation that would reduce all four powerplant pollutants. The Clean Smokestacks Act and the Clean Power Act embody this sensible approach. In fact, prior to the president's surprising reversal last week, I had hoped we could win the President's support for our bipartisan approach.

Our job has become more difficult given the President's unfortunate decision to oppose curbing carbon dioxide emissions. But I believe that we have reached the point of no turning back on a four pollutant approach for powerplant emissions.

When the original Clean Air Act was enacted in 1970, the electric utility industry argued that stringent controls shouldn't be imposed on the oldest, dirtiest plants since they would soon be replaced by new state-of-the-art facilities. Although Congress acceded to these arguments and shielded old powerplants from the law's requirements, many of these facilities—which were already old in 1970—are still in use. In some cases, powerplants from 1922 are still in operation and have never had to meet the environmental requirements that a new facility would.

As a result, a single plant in the Midwest can emit as much pollution as the entire state of Massachusetts.

Opponents of our effort say that it will cost too much to address carbon dioxide emissions. But there have been at least four other studies published in the last six months by the Department of Energy and others that conclude that the costs of a multi-pollutant strategy will be quite reasonable.

In conclusion, let me commend Representative BOEHLERT and Senators JEFFORDS, LIEBERMAN, COLLINS, and SCHUMER. I am pleased to be part of this bipartisan, bicameral approach to strengthening the Clean Air Act and protecting our environment.

THE RETIREMENT OF FORREST S. MCCARTNEY**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to say a few words thanking Forrest McCartney for his service to the nation. I have the privilege of representing Florida's Space Coast, and Forrest has been a tremendous part of our community for many years. But, more importantly, his contributions to our nation's space program are remarkable.

Forrest retired on March 2 from his position as Lockheed Martin's chief of launch operations at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Vandenberg Air Force Base, a fitting end to an illustrious career.

Forrest McCartney was born in the town of Fort Payne, Alabama. He left rural Alabama to earn degrees in electrical engineering from